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Experts say Permian CO2 injection must heed seismic lessons

By **Mella McEwen, Midland Reporter-Telegram, Texas** *The Tribune Content Agency*

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Experts agree the soaring volumes and intensity of produced water injection underground as oil and natural gas production has risen have contributed to  Opt-Out Signal Honored in the Permian Basin.

Those volumes are now being compared to the volumes of carbon dioxide expected to be injected as carbon capture and storage facilities come online.

"It's subject to the same principle," said Alex Bump, research associate at the University of Texas at Austin's Bureau of Economic Geology, addressing the issue at the CO2 Conference.

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He likened the injection to an aboveground storage tank, which has capacity constraints - the size of the tank and pressure capacity. The subsurface is no different, he said.

"We can do disposal safely and effectively," he said. "It depends on the geologic characteristics."

Produced water and CO2 have been safely disposed of in the Permian Basin for decades and the energy industry will continue doing so, he said.

The key is to identify areas that are reasonable for storage and areas that are

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Not the said.

Bump said there is a lot of research being done into recycling CO2, noting it plays a part in creating synthetic aviation fuel.

Tribune Regional TX

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